

Message Text

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51

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 OPIC-12

TRSE-00 XMB-07 CIEP-02 OMB-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /193 W

----- 000596

R 121200Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL KISANGANI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0119

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMCONSUL BUKAVU

ZEN/AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI 0018

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, CG

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

LOCAL ZAIROIS IN KISANGANI APPLAUD MOBUTU'S DECISION TO FORCE
PAKISTANIS OUT OF HAUT ZAIRE AND TO EXPROPRIATE ALL FOREIGN BUSINESSES.

NEVERTHELESS, THEY ARE APPREHENSIVE THAT THESE BUSINESSES WILL
BE GIVEN TO CARPETBAGGERS FROM KINSHASA. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE
APPREHENSIVE THAT THE PAKISTANIS AND GREEKS WILL ATTEMPT TO SABOTAGE
PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY BY INDUCING ARTIFICIAL SCARCITIES.
THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IS APPREHENSIVE THAT ZAIROIS WILL BLAME THEM FOR

ANY FAILURES CAUSED BY THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY AND RETAILIATE
WITH VIOLENCE.

2. UNIVERSAL TENSION HERE WAS NOT HELPED BY SPEECH MADE BY THE
ASSISTANT REGIONAL GOVERNOR TO FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN IN WHICH HE
WARNED THEM AGAINST ECONOMIC SABOTAGE LINGERING ON THE PENALTIES FOR
THIS

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CRIME WHICH INCLUDED IMMEDIATE EXPULSION AND CONFISCATION

OF ALL PROPERTY. AT THE LAST MINUTE, HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE PROCESS OF TURNING OVER FOREIGN BUSINESSES TO ZAIROIS MUST BEGIN BY DEC 25, 1973. THE REGIONAL GOVERNOR STATED AT A LATER ASSEMBLY OF THE PEOPLE OF KISANGANI THAT THE ZAIROIS MUST REPORT ANY REDUCTION IN COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON THE PART OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN. HE THEN WARNED THE ZAIROIS AGAINST ECONOMIC SABOTAGE ON THEIR PART BY MAKING DEALS WITH FOREIGNERS TO OBTAIN THEIR BUSINESSES. HE STATED THAT THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WILL MAKE ALL DECISIONS ABOUT WHO RECEIVES WHAT IN HAUT ZAIRE.

3. COMMENT: (BEGIN LOU) KISANGANI IS POLITICALLY CALM AND SECURITY IS EXCELLENT. THE FOREIGNERS ARE AFRAID THAT THEY WILL LOSE EVERYTHING THEY HAVE HERE. HOWEVER, SO FAR NO ONE HAS BEEN JAILED ALTHOUGH MANY HAVE PAID ENORMOUS BRIBES TO HAVE THEIR PAPERS PUT IN ORDER QUICKLY (END LOU).
ARCHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, EXPULSION, BUSINESS FIRMS, SPEECHES, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KISANG00178
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KISANGANI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731230/aaaaavqq.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S SPEECH LOCAL ZAIROIS IN KISANGANI APPLAUD MOBUTU'S DECISION TO FORCE
TAGS: SPOP, EGEN, CG, PK, (MOBUTU, SESE SEKO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005